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PORCELAIN PRODUCTION NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

Production in Bulgarian porcelain factories is unsatisfactory because the plan for assortments has not been fulfilled. There is a shortage of tea sets, kitchen and dinner sets, children's sets, tea and coffee cups with ornamented saucers, ornamented porcelain, soup plates, pots, and water pitchers.

The "Stroiteini Materiali" (Building Material) State Industrial Combine continues to manufacture shapeless, warped, and cracked porcelain products. The ceramic enterprises have not produced such a large quantity of defective porcelain since 9 September 1944. Large quantities of defective and irregular sets of porcelain products are stocked in wholesale and retail houses. Of the total porcelain turned out during the first quarter of this year, about 60 percent has been marked defective and only 40 percent is considered regular merchandise. The "Kitka" State Industrial Enterprise sold seven carloads of porcelain products to the central cooperative federation during February 1951. Of the 55,000 plates, 32,000 (60 percent) turned out to be defective; of the 3,800 tea cups sold, 2,530 (66 percent) were defective; of 6,660 tea saucers, 4,830 (74 percent) were defective; and of 5,250 pots, 2,800 (54 percent) were irregular.

The quality of goods produced during the entire first quarter of this year by the "Stalin" and "Purvi May" porcelain factories is very poor.

The plan for assorted porcelain products during the first quarter of 1951 was not carried out. The "Stalin" State Industrial Enterprise has not fulfilled its contractual obligations toward the central cooperative federation with regard to assorted porcelain products. This may be seen from the following: instead of the specified 48,000 soup plates, 21 centimeters in diameter, only 10,800 have been delivered; of the ordered 12,000 No. 1 pots, only 1,700 have been delivered; of the ordered 1,900 No. 3 pots, only 900 have been delivered; of the ordered 30,000 tea cups, only 12,900 have been delivered; of the ordered 210 tea sets, only 11 have been delivered; of the ordered 220 kitchen sets, only 24 have been delivered, and of the ordered 750 children's sets, only 50 have been delivered.

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The "Pervomay" State Industrial Enterprise also has not fulfilled its contractual obligations toward the central cooperative federation, as regards the quantities and assortments of ordered porcelain products. Instead of the ordered 6,500 plates, 19 centimeters in diameter, only 2,100 have been delivered, of the ordered 2,000 plates, 21 centimeters in diameter, only 600 have been delivered, of the No 1 pots, instead of 600, only 400 have been delivered, of the No 2 pots, instead of 1,000, only 300 have been delivered, of the No 3 pots, instead of 700, only 300 have been delivered, and of the No 4 pots, instead of 500, only 100 have been delivered.

The "Kirkas" State Industrial Enterprise also has not fulfilled its contract with the central cooperative federation. It has delivered only 3,600 No 2 pots instead of the ordered 16,000, of the No 3 pots, instead of 8,000 only 5,500 have been delivered, of the No 4 pots, instead of 12,000, only 6,600 have been delivered, of the ordered 1,850 tea sets, it has delivered only 30, of the ordered 210 kitchen sets, it has delivered only five, and it has not delivered any of the ordered 80 children's sets.

The above factories also have not fulfilled their contractual obligations toward the "Kolstok" State Commercial Enterprise. For instance, the "Stalin" State Industrial Enterprise undertook the contractual obligation to deliver to "Kolstok" 125,000 plates, 19-21 centimeters in diameter, but has actually delivered only 101,000, instead of the ordered 25,000 pots, it has delivered only 10,000, of the ordered 36,000 tea cups, it has delivered only 24,000, of the ordered 1,000 pieces of children's sets, it has delivered only 170 pieces, of the ordered 1,850 complete tea sets, it has delivered merely 1,020 separate pieces, of the ordered 4,400 pieces of kitchen sets, it has delivered only 1,600 pieces, and of the ordered 132 pieces of dinner sets, it has delivered only 72 pieces.

The "Kitka" Enterprise has fulfilled its contract with "Kolstok" in the following manner: instead of the order 57,000 tea cups, it has delivered only 36,000, of the ordered 50 chamber pots, not a single one has been delivered, of the ordered 250 children's sets, not one has been delivered, of the ordered 2,500 dinner sets, not one has been delivered, and of the ordered 30,000 pots of different sizes, only 20,000 have been delivered.

Moreover, the factories have exercised no care in packing the porcelain products to be delivered. Porcelain products are transported in bulk, without any kind of packaging. The lids of the kitchen sets are transported in small crates, but the pots and the bottles belonging to the sets are bulk loaded in railroad cars without any kind of packing. This results in a large percentage of breakage, as well as a loss of time for the wholesale commercial establishments, which must place the lids on the right pots.

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